

STANDARD NOMENCLATURE OF DISEASES AND OPERATIONS—Fourth Edition. Richard J. Plunkett, M.D., Editor, and Adaline C. Hayden, R.R.L., Association Editor. Published for the American Medical Association. The Blakiston Company, Philadelphia, 1952. 1,034 pages. \$8.00.

"Standard Nomenclature of Diseases and Operations" appeared in its fourth edition in January 1952. The work has been expanded to include a 187-page appendix which attempts to correlate the "Standard" diagnoses and code numbers with diagnoses and code numbers of the "International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries, and Causes of Death." The International list numbers have been inserted parenthetically throughout the body of the book and by reference to the appendix the code numbers of the two systems may be cross-indexed.

Sections on tumor classifications, on diseases of the hemic and lymphatic systems, and psychiatric diagnostic terminology have been broadly revised under competent editorship in the light of newer knowledge.

The Supplemental Terms lists do not in this edition follow directly after the categories they subserve but are grouped together in one section. Most of these lists have been increased and improved. A notable exception is the list of Supplemental Terms of the endocrine system.

The list of eponyms has disappeared as such and these now appear in the general index of nomenclature. This is a more handy arrangement. The familiar names of Henoch and Schönlein have said farewell as well as Felty's syndrome. Eisenmenger's syndrome appears for the first time along with Chiari's, Letterer-Siwe's, and Brill-Symmers.

There are several examples of improved proofreading. Déjerine has throughout now acquired its acute accent, "Monckberg" has found the additional *e* it needed, and "Friederichsen" of Waterhouse-Friderichsen has lost the *e* it did not need. But although Fröhlich is now Froelich, Köhlers is still Köhlers.

If it becomes necessary in the future to expand this book once more, it is suggested that the present appendix be made into a separate volume. The book is maximally large now for handy desk reference and few of those who use it frequently have need for reference to the International classification.

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UROLOGICAL PATHOLOGY. Peter A. Herbut, M.D., Professor of Pathology, Jefferson Medical College, and Director of Clinical Laboratories, Jefferson Medical College Hospital, Philadelphia. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia, 1952. Two volumes, 1,222 pages, 527 illustrations, two in color. \$24.00.

This long (1,222 pages in two volumes) work is more a pathologist's summary of the whole field of urology than (ideally) an exhaustive description of the anatomic and pathologic changes in urologic disease. Half the space is given up to non-critical review of the literature of the last 25 years and too little is devoted to anatomicohistologic detail, which has been available only in German works. The clinical material (better covered in standard texts) could profitably be replaced by presentation of the physiologic-biochemical implications and correlations of the pathologic processes.

The fourteen chapters deal successively with the various organs of the urinary and genital tracts, a convenient arrangement for the practicing doctor but entailing some repetition and making the interrelationships less distinct (as for instance in obstructive disease which often affects the tract as a whole). Each organ is discussed completely and the references will be valuable.

These volumes are recommended only as a reference work for most students and physicians, but would be a worthwhile addition to the libraries of the studious urologist.

TONSIL AND ALLIED PROBLEMS. Roy H. Parkinson, M.D., F.A.C.S., Chief of Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Department, St. Joseph's Hospital, San Francisco. The Macmillan Company, New York, 1951. 432 pages. \$12.00.

The need for an up-to-date text on the tonsils and adenoids seems obvious when it is considered that, as the author states in the introduction, "There are more tonsillectomies performed than any other operation known," and that many years have elapsed since the appearance of a complete treatise on the subject.

The anatomy, embryology and histology of the tonsils and of the adjoining tissues are given, including well detailed descriptions of the musculature of the throat, the potential spaces around the tonsils, the adenoids, the blood supply and the nerve supply.

All known diseases of the tonsils are discussed, together with their diagnosis and treatment.

The chapter on indications for tonsillectomy is concise yet complete. The author rightly decries the promiscuous removal of all children's tonsils. He believes the tonsils definitely can constitute a focus of infection, but that such is not so frequently the case as has been thought in the past.

The technique of tonsillectomy and of adenoidectomy is treated at length. All methods are described, together with the author's modifications based on his many years' experience and on many thousand cases. In his opinion, however, the choice of technique is not important so long as the tonsils are completely removed without injury to the musculature, particularly to the pillars of the fauces.

Postoperative care is discussed fully. The author's postoperative liquid medication seems better than aspirin (plain) although he states he never has observed aspirin to cause bleeding.

Postoperative complications are well covered with exception of sudden death during or immediately after operation. Although rare, deaths do occur. In the reviewer's opinion a desirable addition would be a detailed account of the causes of such deaths.

This book has been designed to aid not only the general practitioner but also the specialist. It is well written. The easy, simple style makes its reading a pleasure. The illustrations, 250 in number, are excellent and depict all points covered in the text. Its perusal is worth the time of anyone interested in the tonsil problem. The physician starting in this field should consider this text "required reading." The specialist would do well to add it to his reference library.

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SERUM SICKNESS. C. Frh. von Pirquet, M.D., and Bela Schick, M.D. Translated by Bela Schick, M.D. The Williams and Wilkins Company, 1951. 130 pages. \$3.50.

Immunologists, allergists, and all physicians with an interest in the history of their profession will be delighted that this great monograph has at last been translated into English by one of the authors. It is inconceivable that 46 years could have been allowed to elapse before this was accomplished.

The modern concept of the role of allergic reactions in the causation of human disease may be said to have been conceived in the mind of von Pirquet. Little has been added to the clinical observations, experimental results, and theoretical considerations set down in this book.

The rapid disappearance of the acute infectious diseases as a cause of human disability has brought into prominence a large group of disorders in which inappropriate immunologic reactions probably are important in pathogenesis. Notable examples are rheumatic fever and periarteritis nodosa. The enquiring physician might well begin his consideration of this subject by reading "Die Serumkrankheit" in this excellent translation.